11/15/74

Dear Nick,

You are so right about my needing that night to ease off!

How I wish it had been possible, while it was all fresh in mind, to have had people like you and Martin draw me out of what had gone on behind the scenes for the two previous weeks! I'd like to have a tape of it for the future, inpart for keen young lawyers-to-be for what is not taught in law school and in part because this may be a more important case than the major media have recognized and a full record could serve history's interests. We have already set a major precedent and it is not by any means impossible that we will add to that.

You overpaid enough for me to send the new book special handling, so here it is.

You will detect the signs of haste. This was all during the preparations for the hearing and while I was trying to complete the draft of a Watergate book not like any out or of which I've heard. There is a largely-untold story. I hope to be able to get back to it. What I wrote for this book is about two days' work. I just didn't have time for more or for revising.

Were it not for gremlins at the printers' it would have been out several months ago. This is the first of my "underground" books I have abandoned. I shepherded all the others through. Neither Jim nor I have had a chance to read this yet. In fact, I got the copies of which this is one from Jim. The printer hasn't even delivered the books to me. When I checked the first set of blues they were oversized and the whole job had to be reshot. Then the printer printed. I had a hunch and went to his shop. Good thing. One page was printed upside down in one sig and in another four pages were out of order! I can only hope it is as straight as it can be now.

As the way we had to do in Memphis is a hell of a way to try a suit, so is this a hell of a way to publish a book.

But we had no choice. The amount of work Jim and I do seems impossible when we look back on it.

If you find any errors, please let me know. I know of a typo on the cover. There simply wasn't time to change it without causing more delays. And Jim borrowed the money for the printer. With luck, I think the content is enough to overcome the multitudinous problems and we'll sell out and have to reprint.

Pub (and release) date is the 22nd. Not because it is the anniversary, an observance I have always shunned. Rather is it keyed to the effort to override Ford's veto of the amendments to the Freedom of Information law. The major reason for these amendments is one of my suits, as the debates show.

With the earlier books I took the time and spent the money to hand-delivery copies to a fair percentage of the bureaus in Washington. In not one case was there a story or a review. This time I can't take the time and we can't afford the copies. So, I'll not be delivering one to your DC bureau.

Intermittently I'd read your and Martin's reporting and respected it. I was glad to meet you both. And I am in your collective debt for the relaxation I needed. The next morning, really later that one, I went to work on the trial I fully expect and believe me, I've some mind-blowing witnesses. In fact, when Maile and I walked back to our motel together I gave him a chance to be an honest man, which he promised and wasn't. So, I guess I started work with the last Scotch!

If you'd like my early JFK work, which remains I think the basic work, I can give you damaged copies. The damage in trucking set what has to be a new record.

They are the only ones I can give away. The only income I have is from the sale of these books. Aside from it there is only my wife's part-time work.

If your interest in Foreman continues, get in touch with Jerry Patchen, in the Professional Building in Houston. I've turned one of my sources over to him. If the source does not deliver to Jerry, I will.

If you want what I am given to understand is a memorable display, if and when you meet Foreman, mention my name. Unless he has cooled and has control of himself, which he did not when he fled a TV studio in New York or when he merely thought of me in Lesar's presence, you'll get quite a show.

Again many thanks.

I enclose a bill in the event the home office prefers them.

Sincerely,